

Delaware Standardbred Breeders' Fund

Board Meeting

April 11, 2018

Delaware Standardbred Breeders' Fund Board
Department of Agriculture – Secretary's Conference Room
Dover, Delaware

In Attendance:

Judy Davis-Wilson	Secretary M. Scuse
John Hensley	Secretary R. Geisenberger
Garnet O'Marrow	Wayne Givens
Matt Sparacino	Dan Keeler

Also attended: Sal DiMario, George Teague, Tony Morgan and Rueben Lorenzo

Andrew Kerber, Garrett Bell, Andrew Markano, Senator Bruce Ennis, Linda MacDonald & Mark Davis were unable to attend this meeting.

Draft Minutes: Donna Krol

CALL TO ORDER

At 1:05 p.m., Judy Davis-Wilson called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance. Secretary Scuse will chair the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Secretary Scuse asked all in attendance if the minutes from 12-1-17 have been reviewed. Meeting minutes are e-mailed to each board member prior to the current meeting. No corrections were noted. Motion was made by Secretary Scuse to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was carried by Garnet O'Marrow and seconded by Wayne Givens. Motion was passed with unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion proposed by John Hensley and Judy Davis-Wilson:

Horse on Qualifying List for breaks still able to race in second leg races and consolation races with DSBF.

Example discussed was horse Lotsa Luck., trainer Dorothy Conner. This is a 3 year old pacing mare that broke in both eliminations and still raced in the DSBF Consolation race on 3-28, where the horse was placed on the Stewards List for repeated breaks. John Hensley is concerned that this is a safety concern.

Discussion on this topic was heard. Discussion points were:

- DSBF horses have limited opportunities to race.
- If horse was bad should have been barred.

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NEW BUSINESS: CONTINUED

Visitors Tony Morgan, George Teague and Reuben Lorenzo spoke:

- Tony Morgan feels business has changed for the worse. We are running out of horses and races are less competitive. If the racing industry in Delaware is not self-sustaining we will lose the business. Breeding in Delaware is down; we should model our breeding business after successful states such as Indiana and Pennsylvania. Goal should be to entice breeding and grow more horses in Delaware. This will keep Delaware Bred horses in Delaware. Currently we give 20% bonus for Delaware Owned horses; we should be giving a percentage to Delaware Bred horses instead. DSBF horses only have 6 starts, 12 in a lifetime. Other horses have at least 30 starts. Because of this, horses leave after DSBF stakes because there are no more opportunities in Delaware.
- Rueben Lorenzo currently has 15+ mares and foals on the ground. He did not receive notification so the foals did not get registered.
- George Teague feels we need to breathe life into the DSBF and grow this program. Delaware does not promote the Stake races like other states. There is no advertising and no enthusiasm for the races. In other states the stake races are an attraction and highlighted creating a "buzz" of excitement.
- Secretary Scuse and Secretary Geisenberger spoke about the slots. Slots are down from 8.5b to 5.1b. Secretary Geisenber updated the Board on the Casino Relief Agreement. In closing Secretary Scuse noted that this was a good discussion. Secretary Scuse will continue to have discussions with the Governor on how to pull in money for the DE Bred program and how that money will be spent.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CLOSE OF MEETING

- With no further business to discuss Secretary Scuse called for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was made by Secretary R. Geisenberger and seconded by Judy Davis-Wilson. Motion was passed with unanimous voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 2:06pm.